

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 17 were now pending in the application to this amendment. Claims 1 through 8 were cancelled without prejudice. Claims 9 -15, which were objected to, and claims 16 and 17 which were rejected, by indicated as allowable if rewritten, have been amended. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and Remarks contained herein.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the objections to the spelling of "stylette" in claims 8, 11, and 15. This spelling of the work appears in the 2002 edition of Webster's Medical Dictionary, and is used in 133 issued U.S. patents. Applicants submit that even if the spelling an alternative spelling, it is both widely accepted and well understood.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 112. Applicants have amended claim 16 to remove reference to "balloon", and amended claim 17 to depend from claim 16. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments remove any basis for a 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection.

DRAWINGS

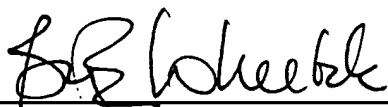
Regarding the objection to the drawings, applicants have corrected a reference to "tether 44" to "stylette 44", eliminating the apparent double use of numeral 44. Applicants added reference numeral 26 to Fig. 5, and reference numerals 46 and 48 to Figs. 3 and 3A.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that upon entry of this amendment, and consideration of the above-remarks, that claims 9 through 17 will be found in condition for allowance. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 314-726-7500.

Respectfully submitted,

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